

tion is at present available. Of the ninety signals displayed at stations in the United States, twenty-three are classed as late, the orders having been issued immediately on the reception of the news of unexpected strong winds; other twenty-three are reported by the observers as not verified at the station, but of these twelve appear to have been verified within one hundred miles thereof, leaving fifty-six signals or sixty-two per cent. verified. Three cases are reported in which dangerous winds prevailed for a short time without the display of signals.

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE.

The isobars given on Map No. 2 show that the area of high pressure on the Pacific Ocean has, as usual, as shown by the charts published by the British Admiralty, encroached upon the coast of California; on the other hand, the area of high barometer over the Atlantic Ocean has apparently extended somewhat further eastward than usual. The lowest pressure is found on Lake Superior in apparent contradiction to the generalizations deduced by Mr. Buchan from his isobaric charts for the world.

TEMPERATURE.

The temperature during this month has been about the average of many years past, the most decided departure being in Minnesota, Wyoming and Colorado. On the 24th, in the latter Territories, the thermometer indicated the lowest temperature ever recorded there, it being -24° at Cheyenne, -17° at Colorado Springs, -9° at Denver and 0 at Santa Fe.

The isothermal lines for the month are given on Map No. 2. In drawing these, some use has been made of the observations made by the corps of voluntary observers reporting to the Signal Office.

The southeastern side of a region of cold air and high barometer, generally presents cases of extreme contrasts of temperature, and such have been quite frequent during this month. The most remarkable instance was noted on the afternoon of February 22d, and it is worthy of special attention, since similar cases have occurred but three or four times during the last three years. On the date in question a line drawn northward through Louisiana to Vicksburg, thence northeast to Baltimore and thence southeast to the Atlantic coast, separated the area of cold northeast winds and rain on the northward from that of warm southwest winds to the southward. This belt of great thermal contrasts had existed on the 20th, and extended slowly eastward until the 23d.

The greatest contrast recorded is found in the Middle Atlantic States, although probably parallel cases occurred at other places, where the Signal Office has no stations. At New York the temperature of 41° , with northeast winds is first recorded on the 21st at 7.35 A. M., and continued uniformly until the 23d 7.35 A. M. At Philadelphia there were northeast winds, temperature 44° on the 22d 7.35 A. M., and continuing uniformly until the 23d 7.35 A. M.; at Baltimore, northeast winds, temperature 58° on the 22d 11 P. M., this is the only northeast wind reported at Baltimore. During the three days in question Baltimore, as also always Washington, experienced only warm southwest winds.

On the 21st, 4.35 P. M.

On the 22d, 4.35 P. M.

On the 23, 7.35 A. M.

New York, wind E, temp. 51° .

Philadelphia, wind, NE, temp. 47° .

Philadelphia, wind, E, temp. 41° .

Philadelphia, wind SW, temp. 67° .

Baltimore, wind SW, temp. 73° .

Baltimore, wind, SW., temp. 62° .